(d) The estimation of minerable coal reserves out of total reserves in proved category is done on an empirical basis and 80 per cent of the proved coal reserves is taken as minerable reserve. Out of the estimated minerable reserve about 80 per cent is considred to be extractable in the blocks which are amendable to opencast mining. In the case of blocks which have to be mined by underground methods, about 50 per cent of the reserve is considered to be extractable after allowing for locked up reserves due to surface features, such as railway lines, rivers etc. and loss of coal due to mining constraints and safety requirements.

(b) The current average overburden (OB) to coal ratio in various opencast mines of Coal India Ltd. is about two cubic metres of OB to a tonne of coal.

(c) The depth of underground mines currently working widely varies depending on the factors like depth, thickness and gradient of coal seams etc. Depending on the geo-mining factors of individual mines/ blocks, the depth of various underground mines ranges between about 150 to 650 metres.

Pilferage of coal from loaded wagons at Haldia Port

3555. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large scale of pilferage of coal from loaded wagons moving to and from Haldia have been taking place causing hardships to the electricity boards served by the Haldia Port;

(b) if so, what is the average monthly pilferage of coal at the Haldia port during the last six months or so;

(c) whether Government have made any enquiry into the pilferages of coal at the Haldia Port; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the measures taken by Government to check the pilferage of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) A complaint has been received from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board alleging extensive pilferage of coal from rakes moving to Haldia on transit. The complaint has been referred to Railways for taking appropriate action.

According to the report received from Ministry of Surface Transport, complaints about pilferage of thermal coal have been received both within the port area and also en-route.

Following steps have been taken by Haldia Port Trust authorities to check the pilferage:

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force has been strengthened.

(ii) Some area between the yard and the berth comes under Govt. of West Bengal. Haldia Port Trust have approached Govt. of West Bengal, who in turn have taken steps to check the thefts.

Joint sampling by SEB's and collieries

3536. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of state Electricity Boards who have agreed to participate in joint sampling at loading end;

(b) whether it is necessary to carry out joint sampling as per ISS particularly in view of the short time available and thereby facing the problems of collection of samples;

(c) what is the performance of coal analysation of the colliery to carry out sampling; and

(d) whether any slippages have been noticed during the quarter April-June-July, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) According to information received from Coal India Ltd., following power stations have agreed for joint sampling at the loading ends:

1. Tanda
2. Unchahar
3. Anpara
4. Singrauli STPS
5. Rihand
6. Vindyachal
7. Amarkantak
8. Korba East
9. Korba West
10. Korba STPS
11. Chandrapur
12. Koradih
13. Khaperkheda
14. Sarni
15. Bokaro
16. Chandrapura (DVC)
17. Talcher
18. Farakka
19. Obra (B)
20. Patratu TPS
21. Durgapur TPS

(b) Presumably the member is referring to sampling as per ISI specifications. Generally the available time at loading end is adequate for collection of samples as per these specifications. However, the sampling could be either as per ISI specifications or as per procedure to be mutually agreed between the coal companies and power utilities.

(c) Adequate infrastructure exists at all loading points for collection/analysis of samples.

(d) Coal as it occurs in nature is a heterogenous material and often contains bands of stone, shale and non-coaly material. Regular samples of the coal seam are drawn and the grades of the seams are fixed as per the prescribed procedure. However, some grade slippages against those declared grades cannot be ruled out. At some collieries/leading points occasional slippages by one/two grades have been noticed during the quarter April-June, 1993.

Leasing out of coll mines

3557. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after 21 years of nationalisation, the country had still to import 6 million tonnes of coking coal per year for the steel plants;

(b) if so, whether the recent amendment in the coal Nationalisation Act which empowers leasing out coal mining to companies setting up power and other plants etc. is not indicative of the fact that our policy of nationalisation has totally failed;

(c) wheher Government would consider that in future some small and isolated reserves of coking coal not in the future planning of Coal India Limited is leased out for captive use of consumers of coking coal as well as to supply coal to steel plants so that load on our foreign exchange could be reduced to that extent; and